January 17, 1945.

Dearest Lee:

The mails are just as much a puzzle to us as they are to you. This morning I received your letter written December 19, so we still do not know anything about the way you celebrated Christmas. However, in a note from Shirley she says she had a letter written on New Year's eve. I take it, however, that you received your packages before December 25, for which I am glad.

If we only had some film I could take wonderful pictures to send you this morning. We are just digging out from a real blizzard. We had 7 inches of snow yesterday, on top of a sleet storm, and our campus is truly a fairyland this morning. All the arba vitae in the hedge around the garden are bent over until they touch the ground, weighed down with ice and snow; but Mr. Briggs says they will not break but straighten up after the ice is melted. Thru all the storm of yesterday daddy drove to Dover and then to New Castle to speak last night. Before 7 this morning he left for Harrisburg, to appear before a Parole Board in behalf of a young man, brother of one of the boys here.

Yesterday an envelope arrived with some clippings, mailed on Dec. 21. As there was a program for The Late Mrs. Cheyney I take it you collected these on your last trip to London.

What does "stand down" mean. You speak of getting a two day stand down for training every 24 days.

All schools were dismissed early yesterday and I guess A.I. is not having any today for the school bus did not come. Bernice went, however, and as she has not called up I take it that she will stay all day. The driving is much better today for the snow play came around during the night.

I think Shirley will be home for a weekend the 26th, primarily to take a voice lesson. It will be the end of the semester but they have no time off as she had hoped they would.

Has the N.Y. Times overseas weekly ever reached you? The news must be very stale when it reaches you from me. I don't see much advantage in sending it airmail but I will continue to do so.

Lots of love from all of us.

Mother